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NOTICE

PWS ID: 1630600

Name: Village of Freeburg

As required by USEPA, The Village of Freeburg recently completed an inventory of home water lines in Freeburg. You are receiving this notice because your residence has been identified as having lead or galvanized lines.

We are informing you of the possible presence of lead in your lines, to raise awareness and provide common precautions that are best practices.

The Village is diligently working towards a replacement program that will not affect Freeburg's residents financially. Estimated costs for lead service line replacement is \$5000.00 to \$10,000.00 per line depending on variables such as length of line and obstacles that are at individual residences. Freeburg is seeking grant funding that will cover the homeowner's side (meter to the residence), and the Village's side - meter to the main.

Freeburg's water continues to meet and exceed Federal and state guidelines for Lead testing. No dangerous levels have been detected, and the Village continues to monitor for possible lead in individual homes.

As new information becomes available to us, we will pass it on to our residents who may be affected. Per USEPA information found on the following pages is required.

If you have any questions, please call Village Hall at 618-539-5545 Monday through Friday, 7 am to 4 pm. If no answer, leave name, number, and address with the best time to call you and we will return your call.

Learn About Lead www.epa.gov/lead

Information about the risks associated with lead in drinking water is available at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency website shown above.

Water Department | Village of Freeburg Public Works

Frequently Asked Questions about Lead in Water from Pipes and Plumbing

How does lead get into drinking water?

Lead can enter drinking water through corrosion of plumbing materials, especially where the water has high acidity or low mineral content that corrodes pipes and fixtures. Homes built before 1986 are more likely to have lead pipes, fixtures, and solder. However, new homes are also at risk: even legally “lead-free” plumbing may contain up to eight percent lead. Beginning January 2014, changes to the Safe Drinking Water Act further reduced the maximum allowable lead content of pipes, pipe fittings, plumbing fittings, and fixtures to 0.25 percent. The most common problem is with brass or chrome-plated brass faucets and fixtures with lead solder, from which lead can enter the water, especially hot water. Corrosion is a dissolving or wearing away of metal caused by a chemical reaction between water and your plumbing. The USEPA has determined that lead can cause significant health problems if it accumulates in a person’s body over time. While lead in tap water is rarely the single cause of lead poisoning, it can increase a person’s overall total lead exposure. High levels of lead in your household drinking water can have significant health impacts, primarily for children and pregnant women.

Galvanized Pipe included?

Galvanized piping has the potential for lead particles to cling to it, so these pipes are slated for replacement as well.

What does Freeburg do to protect my household from lead?

To prevent lead from dissolving into water from lead service lines or home plumbing, Freeburg purchases water from the SLM Water Plant. SLM has the ability to adjust the water’s chemistry at the treatment plant to limit the risk of corrosion in water lines. This process is known as Corrosion Control. Although corrosion control can reduce risks, the best way to assure your home is safe from lead exposure is to remove the potential sources of lead.

The Village conducts tests per EPA standards for Lead and Copper in homes with suspected lead service lines and/or lead solder. No dangerous levels have been detected, and the Village will continue its monitoring program for possible lead in homes.

What can I do to reduce the possibility of lead from my drinking water?

1. ***Run the Tap Before Use*** – Lead levels are at their highest when water has been sitting in the pipe for several hours. Clear this water from your pipes by running the cold water for several minutes. This allows you to draw fresh water from the main. The Village of Freeburg recommends running water for 60 seconds. You can use this water on houseplants or to flush toilets.
2. ***Clean Aerators*** – Aerators are small attachments at the tips of faucets which regulate the flow of water. They can accumulate small particles of lead in their screens. It is a good idea to remove your aerators at least monthly and clean them out.
3. ***Use Cold Water for Cooking and Drinking*** – Always cook and prepare baby formula with cold water, because hot water dissolves lead more quickly, resulting in higher levels in water.

4. ***Filter the Water*** – Many home water filters are effective at removing lead. If you purchase a filter, make sure it is certified for lead removal and that you maintain it properly. Find out more on filter certification at www.nsf.org. Water pitchers and filters are available at Lowes, Menards, Walmart, and Tobin's, make sure it does remove lead. Price ranges are from \$25.00 to \$50.00. Replacement filter range in price depending on how many you purchase. \$37.00 (two pack) to \$60.00 (4 pack).

Do all home filters and other water filter treatment devices remove lead?

No. If you purchase a water filter or home treatment device, make sure it is independently certified for lead removal and that you maintain it properly. Find out more on filter certification at www.nsf.org.

Are there special steps I should take to protect my developing baby, infant or young children?

Households with pregnant women, infants or young children should be especially aware of the **potential** for lead exposure through drinking water. If you suspect there may be residual lead in your home plumbing, consider having your water evaluated at a certified laboratory. If lead is detected, consider purchasing a filter certified for lead removal, or use an alternate source of water until the problem is corrected. Babies and young children are most vulnerable to the harmful effects of lead at low levels. U.S. EPA estimates infants who consume mostly mixed formula can receive 40 percent to 60 percent of their exposure to lead from drinking water.

Is it safe to shower in water that contains lead?

Because lead is not absorbed through the skin, bathing or showering in water containing lead is not considered a health risk.

Is water the only source of lead in homes and businesses?

No, only about 20% of total exposure, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. However, drinking water can account for more than half of lead exposure in children because of their lower body weight. Additionally, because no level of lead is considered safe, eliminating potential sources of lead is strongly advised.

How do I know whether my drinking water contains lead?

Because it is colorless and tasteless, lead is not readily apparent in water. In fact, the only way to know for certain whether your drinking water contains lead is to have your water evaluated by a certified laboratory. The Village will not be testing individual homes on demand. If you want to have your water tested for lead by a certified lab, The Village can provide you with a list of certified labs and assist you with sample collection.

Moving Forward

You are receiving this letter because crews have identified a lead line(s) in your home, or we were unable to identify if you have lead piping in your home or were unable to inspect your piping.

Spanish: "Este aviso contiene información importante sobre su agua servicio y puede afectar a sus derecho. Te animamos a tener este aviso traducido en su totalidad a un idioma que comprenda y antes de tomar cualquier decisión que pueda ser requerida bajo Esta noticia."

Polish „Niniejsze powiadomienie zawiera ważne informacje dotyczące Twojej wody usługi i może mieć wpływ na Twoje prawa. Zachęcamy do posiadania ta informacja została przetłumaczona w całości na język, który rozumiesz i zanim podejmiesz jakiegokolwiek decyzje, które mogą być wymagane w ramach to zawiadomienie."

Chinese “本通知包含有關您的水的重要信息服務，並可能影響您的權利。我們鼓勵您擁有本通知全文翻譯成您理解的語言在您做出任何可能需要的決定之前這個通知。”

Tagalog may napansin 'this mahahalagang impormasyon tungkol sa inyong paglilingkod sa tubig at may karapatan mo . hinihimok namin ang mo ang pansin sa isang puno na isinalin sa wikang maintindihan mo at bago ka gumawa ng mga desisyon na may hihingin sa ilalim ng pansin ito . '

Arabic "يحتوي هذا الإشعار على معلومات مهمة عن المياه الخاصة بك الخدمة وقد تؤثر على حقوقك. نحن نشجعك على أن يكون لديك تمت ترجمة هذا الإشعار بالكامل إلى لغة تفهمها وقبل اتخاذ أي قرارات قد تكون مطلوبة بموجب هذا الإشعار ."

Korean "이 알림에는 물에 대한 중요한 정보가 포함되어 있습니다. 서비스를 제공하고 귀하의 권리에 영향을 미칠 수 있습니다. 우리는 당신이 가질 것을 권장합니다 이 통지서는 귀하가 이해하는 언어로 전체 번역되었습니다. 아래에 필요할 수 있는 결정을 내리기 전에 이 통지."

German "Dieser Hinweis enthält wichtige Informationen zu Ihrem Wasser Dienst und können Ihre Rechte beeinträchtigen. Wir ermutigen Sie dazu diese Mitteilung vollständig in eine Sprache übersetzt, die Sie verstehen und bevor Sie Entscheidungen treffen, die unter Umständen erforderlich sind diesen Hinweis."

Urdu "اس نوٹس میں آپ کے پانی کے بارے میں اہم معلومات شامل ہیں۔ خدمت اور آپ کے حقوق کو متاثر کر سکتا ہے۔ ہم آپ کو حاصل کرنے کی ترغیب دیتے ہیں۔ اس نوٹس کا مکمل ترجمہ اس زبان میں کیا گیا ہے جسے آپ سمجھتے ہیں۔ اور اس سے پہلے کہ آپ کوئی فیصلہ کریں جس کی ضرورت ہو سکتی ہے۔ یہ نوٹس۔"

Gujarati "આ નોટિસમાં તમારા પાણી વિશે મહત્વપૂર્ણ માહિતી છે સેવા અને તમારા અધિકારોને અસર કરી શકે છે. અમે તમને પ્રોત્સાહિત કરીએ છીએ તમે સમજો છો તે ભાષામાં આ સૂચનાનો સંપૂર્ણ અનુવાદ અને તમે કોઈપણ નિર્ણયો લો તે પહેલાં જે અંતર્ગત જરૂરી હોઈ શકેઆ સૂચના."